The

Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

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Notes of the Month.

With the present issue we begin a New Year, and would first of all wish for all our readers all happiness throughout its course. This we most heartily do, even though we do not forget that the opening of the year 1916 will find us still committed to a war of unprecedented magnitude, and one in which we are all deeply and vitally concerned. But the happiness of which we think and which we desire for our readers is something other than pleasure or unreflecting satisfaction. There is no greater joy than that which springs from surrender to duty, clearly conceived and strenuously executed. Such may entail hardship, and exact its pains and penalties, but if in the doing of it our highest powers are engaged, and are directed to some great end, then happiness is not only possible, but is the most probable consequence. If that be so with us, whom duty claims here at home, we must not think it less true of those who are abroad, the members of our families, of our congregations, and of still wider social communities. That the great and exacting duty we have undertaken be fully and finally discharged this year is our present hope. Till then there can be no slackening of our endeavours, no diminution of our zeal.

* *

In accordance with the intimation given in our December number, we give this month the most up-to-date list of names on the Roll of Honour of our Non-Subscribing Church. We are grateful to the correspondents in our different congregations who have kindly enabled us to make the list so complete. It will be seen how much larger it is than was the case in March of last year, when we published a list of names. Viewed in the light of our Church membership, it is plain that many young men have realised the gravity of the issue now being fought out, and feel their own personal responsibility. We are indeed very proud of their response to the call of their country. Nor must we overlook the fact that in giving for the first time the names of ladies who are engaged in hospital and other duties due to the war, we are placing on record our deep sense of the invaluable aid rendered by the ladies of our congregations. In times of peace their devotion to our cause is not always as clearly recognised as it deserves. But no one could overestimate the value of the services rendered by the ladies here and elsewhere on behalf of our soldiers, both the able and the disabled.

NEW YEAR, 1916

By Rev. Eustace Thompson.

"Our eyes are upon Thee."—2 Chron. xx 12.

The first of January is only the day after the thirty-first of December; but the duration of everything of importance is reckoned by years. The landmarks of a history or a lifetime are distinguished in that wise. Hence, although most other points in the year are passed by with little notice, except as so many tokens that the current year is being quickly sped; when New Year's Day is approaching, we inevitably heed it; and at that time most of us are inclined to meditation, and not a few to prayer. According to the quality of one's conduct one's own country and even the world at large will be the better or the worse—if by ever so little—in the course of the New Year: conversely, according as the history of one's country and of the world in general through the New Year is good or evil, so will be one's individual lot. In that reflection we have sufficient cause at each New Year for high resolve on the one hand, on the other, for pious hope. But never have any of us now alive, never has the oldest among us had more cause for solemn thoughts, and more need for earnest prayer, when looking towards the future of a New Year, than now, at the dawn of one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

After seventeen months of stupendous warfare we witness evidence enough of the weariness of our enemies; but as yet, so far from seeing their retreat, we see them enlarging their sphere of action, and threatening and scheming to enlarge it yet again. We are in the position of Jehoshaphat when he said of a great company that had come up against his kingdom of Judah: "O, our God, wilt Thou not judge them?" At an ordinary time the weak ones amongst us, when considering the call for good resolution, are apt to be discouraged by the insignificance and ineffectiveness of the best that they can do, and are tempted to prefer what is easier and not good. But now, convinced though we are, of the rightness of our cause and the iniquity of our enemy, and yearning to see the vanquishing of our foe and the vindication of the right, the best of us are half disposed to lose heart, and the worst to lose their faith. This we have no real cause to do, unless it be in our bad consciences.

If your conscience is good, be not faint-hearted: be assured that the conscience of the kingdom and the empire is as good as yours; and rather say, in the manner of the pious king, in the circumstances already referred to, "Though our own might, O God, seemeth not to avail, neither know we what to do, yet OUR EYES ARE UPON THEE."

The wonderful intensity of Hebrew faith in the faithfulness and righteousness of Almighty God is discernible in spite of the incredibility of the stories in the sacred Scriptures in which it is set forth; nay, it is the more forcibly revealed, and designedly the more so, in the very incredibility of the same. The human nature and human experience of the Hebrew writers was not different from ours; but so great was their faith in the faithful righteousness of God to those who looked toward Him for leading and for help, that they did not think the relation of ordinary history in itself would suffice on the one hand to account for it (neither does it, since one half of faith is founded on the fellowship of the Holy Spirit), or on the other, to convince their readers of its sound foundation. Hence they must needs invent the preposterous story of the mutual destruction of the foes of Judah. Our enemies are leagued against us by no mutual love, but some by a common selfishness, others by unholy fear: whether they are yet to be undone by ruptured harmony and by falling upon one another, or by some other means, we have as good a cause as Jahaziel and Jehoshaphat and all Judah with them, not to fear, neither to be dismayed by reason of this great multitude, for the battle is not ours, but God's.

Roll of Honour

ANTRIM.

John M'Clinton, North Irish Horse.

BALLEE.

Captain Crymble, R.A.M.C.
Lieut. M'Mechan.

BALLYCARRY.

Andrew Blair, Royal Navy.
Samuel Blair, A. & S. Highlanders.
Moore Getty Blair, A. & S. Highlanders.
Corp. Wm. Jas. Blair, Royal Irish Fusiliers.
Engineer Edward Gray, H.M.S. "Argonaut."
William M'Murtry, Lord Kitchener's Army.
David M'Master, Royal Irish Rifles.
Samuel M'Cready, Royal Irish Rifles.
David Nelson, Lord Kitchener's Army.
Gilbert Steele, H.M.S. "Cæsar."

BALLYMONEY.

John Getty, R.M.L. Infantry.
Lieut. James M'Kay, R.A.M.C.
Corp. Geo. H. Pinkerton, Despatch Rider, R.E.
John Dick Pinkerton, First-class Petty Officer, Armoured Motor Car Section, R.N. Air Service.

BALLYHEMLIN.

Lieut. Harold Allen.
James Curry, Royal Navy.
Samuel Curry, Royal Navy.
Joseph Moreland, Royal Navy.
Samuel Young, Royal Navy.

BANBRIDGE.

A. Dougan, Pte. (killed in action March 14th, R.I.R.)
F. A. Dougan, Royal Irish Rifles.
W. J. Dougan, Irish Fusiliers.
J. Dougan, Irish Fusiliers.
Sergeant R. W. Glass, Royal Irish Rifles.
John Henry Haire, Royal Navy.
Robert Haire, Royal Irish Rifles.
Sergeant James Neill Royal Irish Rifles.
Corporal R. Neill, A. & S. Highlanders.
Corporal Thos. Neill, Royal Irish Rifles.
Captain W. Haughton Smyth, Royal Irish Rifles
W. Stevenson, Army Service Corps.
W. Shanks, Pte., Royal Irish Rifles.
W. Haire, Royal Engineers.
R. O'Neill, Pte., Argyle and Southern Highlanders.

BELFAST (All Souls' Church).

R. Craig, 18th Batt. R.I.R.
Lieut. Chas. Dickson, R.A.M.C.
Robin Dickson, Royal Fusiliers.
Capt. Terence Duffin, 15th Batt. R.I.R.
2nd Lieut. Cyril Edwards, 2nd Batt. R.I.R.
Robert Gregg, 10th Batt. R.I.R.
James Gregg, Canadian E. Force.
Capt. J. M. Henderson, 8th Batt. R.I.R.
Robert Henderson, Royal Marines.
James Henderson, N.I.H.
Lieut. Hewitt Stitt, R.I.R.
2nd Lieut. J. A. Stitt, Royal Field Artillery.
Lieut. M. K. Nelson, R.A.M.C.
2nd Lieut. R. M'C. Pettigrew, 8th Batt. R.I.R.

LADIES ENGAGED IN NURSING.

Miss Celia Duffin, No. 3 Hospital, Wandsworth.
Miss Emma Duffin, No. 15 Hospital, Alexandria.

BELFAST (Domestic Mission Church).

William Allen R.A.M.C.
Hugh Bell Motor Transport.
Harold Beattie R.A.M.C.
Samuel Densmore R.I. Rifles.
Matthew Ellis R.A.M.C.
Samuel Fulton Cyclists' Corps.
Albert Green Inniskilling Fusiliers.
John M'Clelland R.I. Rifles.
John Morton R.A.M.C.
Thomas Morton R.A.M.C.
Edward M'Cully R.I. Rifles.
James Millar Inniskilling Fusiliers.
John M'Coll R.I. Rifles.
William M'Carroll R.I. Rifles.
John M'Avoy R.I. Rifles.
Robert Montgomery Canadian Contingent.
Thomas Slater, R.I. Rifles.
Bert Scott, R.I. Rifles.
John Wilson, R.I. Rifles.
David Wilson, R.I. Rifles.
Samuel Watson, R.I. Rifles.
Thomas Williamson, Inniskilling Fusiliers.

BELFAST (FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH).

Ernest G. Boas, Second Lieut. 5th Batt. R.I. Rifles.
Frank Ferguson, Pte. Royal Irish Fusiliers, wounded in British East Africa.
Reggie Ferguson, Pte. Cadet Corps, Newcastle.
Ernest Greenfield, Pte. Mechanical Transport A.S.C.
Tom Greenfield, Pte. Mechanical Transport A.S.C.
William Hall, Chief Torpedo Operator, H.M.S. "Invincible."
William J. Hill, Lieut. Inspector Ordnance Machinery.
Robt. H. Kelly, Pte. 14th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Stanley Kennedy, Petty Officer Royal Naval Air Service.
Gerald Lowry, Capt. 5th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles (totally blinded in action in France)
John Maguigan, Pte. 15th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles (died of fever, Belfast, Sept. 12th, 1915).
Kenneth M. Moore, Lieut. 11th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Alfred M'Clelland, Lance-Corp. North Irish Horse.
Ivan M'Crum, Pte. R.A.M.C.

Duncan Stephen M'Ervel, Lance-Corp. 20th Batt. Royal Irish Fusiliers.
James Edmund M'Ervel, Second Lieut. 10th Batt. R.I. Rifles.
F. A. Nelson, Capt. H.M. Australian Transport Service.
Wm. John Nelson, Engineer Officer, H.M. Transport Service.
Percy B. Orr, Second Lieut. 17th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Sidney Orr, Corporal, Despatch Rider.
Leslie Rogers, Lieut. Royal Field Artillery.
Brian Simonton, Pte. North Irish Horse.
Mason Simonton, Pte. 20th Batt. Royal Irish Fusiliers.
Alec. P. Steele, Sapper, Royal Engineers (Wounded in the Dardanelles).
Ronald D. Williams, Sec. Lieut. 5th Batt. R.I. Rifles.
Tom Wilson, Pte., 36th Div. Cycling Corps.
Wm. Henry Wood, Sec. Lieut., 1st Army Signals, Royal Engineers.
Thos. Wright, Pte., 14th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.

LADIES ENGAGED IN HOSPITAL DUTY.

Miss Jean Armstrong.
Miss Kathleen Boas.
Miss Ethel Carr.
Miss Clara Crozier.
Miss Malcolm.
Miss A. Malcolm.
Miss M. Malcolm.
Miss Lizzie Nelson.

LADIES ENGAGED IN ORGANISING WORK FOR WAR.

Miss Davidson (Soldiers' Club).
Miss F. Davidson (Windsor Ward, Queen Mary's Needlework Guild).
Mrs. Hume (Belfast Depot for Field Dressings

BELFAST (YORK ST. CHURCH).

*Sergeant Brian Adair, Despatch Rider.
Harold Beattie, Inniskilling Dragoons.
William Boal, R.I. Fusiliers.
D. Boal.
William Cobain, Army Service Corps.
T. Coburn.
W. J. Dickson.
Thos. Dickson.
Alex. M'Caw, R.N. Submarine.
John M'Mullen, H.M.S. "Adventurer."
James M'Mullen, R.I. Rifles.
Sapper Jim Neill, Royal Engineers.
*Recommended for D.C.M.

CAIRNCASTLE.

Robert Wharry, Royal Navy.
William Wharry, Royal Irish Rifles.

CLOUGH.

Joseph Bryan, Royal Irish Rifles.
James Coburn, North Irish Horse.
William Donnan, Royal Irish Rifles.
Lieut. Engineer Hugh Donnan, Royal Navy.
William Kilpatrick, N.C.O., North Irish Horse.
Joseph Kilpatrick, Royal Irish Rifles.
Robert Kilpatrick, Royal Irish Rifles.

COMBER.

Henry Adams, R.I. Rifles.
Alex. Burgess, Royal Field Artillery.
Robert Burgess, R.I. Rifles.
Harry Burgess, R.I. Rifles.
Hamilton Bishop, H.M.S. "Hebe."
Thomas Dempster, H.M.S. "Hercules."
Robert Dempster, R.I. Rifles.
Lance-Cor. James Munn Dugan, R.I. Rifles.
*Nathaniel Ferguson, Post Office.
Jim Frame, Rifleman.
Samuel Herron. ,,
Stewart Johnston, R.I. Rifles
John Lemon, Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Robert Milligan, Rifleman.
Samuel Milligan, Gunner.
Sergeant Mills, Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Albert Stewart, Rifleman.
William Morrow, North Irish Horse.
Adam Marshall, A.B.
David Munn, R.I. Rifles.
—— Milligan, R.I. Rifles.
Thomas M'Quade, R.I. Rifles.
William M'Quade, Royal Navy.
Stewart Niblock, R.I. Rifles.
Albert Nelson, Rifleman.
John O'Prey, North Irish Horse.
George Sloan, R.I. Rifles.
James Young, Gunner, R.F.A.
†Albert Young, Highland Light Infantry.
David Young, Gunner, B.E.F.
*Died in France of blood poisoning.
†Killed in action.

CRUMLIN.

Arthur Dawson, Royal Irish Rifles.

DOWNPATRICK.

Lieut. Hugh Cochrane, R.I. Rifles.
Fred P. Cavan, R.I. Rifles.
John Ferris, Instructor.
William Keown, R. Scot. Fusiliers.
Lieut. G.L. M'Kenzie, Royal Navy.
Corporal John Milligan, R.I. Rifles.
Samuel M'Murray, North Irish Horse.
Francis W. M'Murray, Lord Kitchener's Army.
Robert Neil.
*Captain Craig Nelson, 3rd Brahmas (Killed in action)
William Quail, 1st Black Watch.
William Shaw, R.I. Rifles.
James S. Shaw, R.I. Rifles.
James R. Stranney, North Irish Horse.

DROMORE.

William Boal, Royal Irish Fusiliers.
Lance-Corp. Edmund Boal, Lord Kitchener's Army.
*H. J. Boal, Cameron Highlanders.
Corp oral Joseph Boal, Mechanical Transport

James Clarke, Colonial Canadian Contingent
William Darragh 13th Batt. R.I. Rifles.
Robert Ervine. Lord Kitchener's Army.
Samuel Fairley, Royal Navy.
*Sergt. John Graham Royal Irish Rifles.
Henry Gregg, R.A.M.C.
James Gregg, Lord Kitchener's Army.
William Greer Royal Irish Rifles (wounded .
Lieutenant W. J. Hill.
George Hobart, jun.. Mechanical Transport.
Ernest Hodgen, Lord Kitchener's Army.
Robt. E. Jardine, Royal Engineers.
Sergt. Major Robert Lindsay. Royal Irish Rifles.
Maurice Lindsay. Lord Kitchener's Army.
Samuel M'Millan, Royal Engineers.
William M'Millan Grenadier Guards.
Thos. Martin (Mount St.) Lord Kitchener's Army.
Walter Martin do. do.
Thos. Martin (Meeting St.) Lord Kitchener's Army.
Sergt. David Martin Royal Irish Rifles.
Sergt. Joseph Martin Royal Irish Rifles.
W. J. M'Cracken R.A.M.C.
John Miniss Special Service.
Robert M'Ilwrath Lord Kitchener's Army.
John M'Ilwrath do do.
†David Prentice Royal Navy.
Sergeant Francis Russell Irish Guards.
Sergt. W. J. Russell Lord Kitchener's Army.
William Russell do. do.
James Russell do. do.
William Spence Field Artillery.
Tom Spence.
John Steele Lord Kitchener's Army.
Alexander Steele Royal Engineers.
David Gill Royal Irish Rifles.
Robert Gill do.
James Gill do.
William Gill do.

*Killed in action.
†Lost in action on H.M.S. " Monmouth " off Chilian coast.

DUBLIN.

A. G. Birch, Captain Army Service Corps.
Eric Falkiner.
A. Grimbley, R.A.M.C.
Lionel Herbert, Commission.
Ernest Herbert, Commission.
Sidney Kidd, Commission.
J. A. C. Kidd, Commission, R.A.M.C.
George Kidd, Captain 5th Irish Fusiliers.
A. S. G. Loxton, Black Watch.
William M'Caw, Commission.
G. Prescott, Commission.

DUNMURRY.

Geoffrey Gordon, M.A., I.C.S., Lieut. 12th Lancers, killed at Potyze, near Ypres, on 30th April, 1915, aged 33.
Nathaniel Hall, 11th Batt. R.I.R.
John Alex. Adam Kelly, Sergt. R.I.R., 11th Batt.
Kenneth Moore, Lieut. R.I.R., 11th Batt.
George M'Farland, R.I.R., 4th Batt.
John M'Kinnon, R.I.F.
William Roberts, R.I.R., 20th Batt.
Robert Vance, R.N.
William Vance, R.N.

GLENARM.

James Boyle, Sapper, Royal Engineers.
Thomas Finlay, A. & S. Highlanders.
Hugh Montgomery, 12th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Joseph Ogilby, 18th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Wm. Blackwood Pullin, R.F.R., H.M.S. " Illustrious."
Thomas Steed, Sapper, A Company, Royal Engineers.

GREYABBEY.

Robert James Gibson, 1st Scottish Horse Brigade.
James Mawhinney, H.M.S. " Cadmos."

HOLYWOOD.

*George D. Black, King's Own Scottish Borderers.
*John Boyle, King's Own Scottish Borderers.
Samuel Cooley, Royal Irish Rifles.
James Greenfield, Royal Irish Rifles.
2nd Lieut. Thos. Henderson, Royal Irish Rifles.
William Hudson, Royal Irish Rifles.
‡Alexander Lennox, Royal Irish Rifles.
George Lennox, Royal Irish Rifles.
John Lennox, Royal Naval Reserve.
Capt. Francis A. M'Cammon, R.A.M.C.
2nd Lieut. J. E. M'Ervel, Royal Irish Rifles.
Lance-Corp. D. S. M'Ervel, Royal Fusiliers.
*Lance-Corp. Samuel M'Gilton, Lancashire and Yorkshire Regiment.
Lieut. J. D. Neill, Royal Irish Rifles.
†Lieut. R. L. Neill, Royal Irish Rifles.
†William J. Osborne, Canadian Contingent.
Alexander Patty, Royal Irish Rifles.
John Patty, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Samuel Patty, Royal Irish Rifles.
Sub.-Lieut Egmont A. Praeger, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.
George Quee, West Yorkshire Regiment.
Joseph Quee, Royal Irish Rifles.
Staff-Sergt. William Scott, Royal Army Medical Corps.
*Thomas Waterman, West Yorkshire Regt.
John White, Royal Irish Rifles.

*Wounded.
†Killed in action.
‡Prisoner in Germany.

KILLINCHY.

David Boyd.
Tom Campbell.
Capt. Frank Lindsay, A.V.C.
Thos. John Murray.
Hugh Quigley.
Harry Quigley.

LARNE.

Andrew Aicken, R.N.R.
William Austin, Royal Irish Rifles.
John W. Caldwell, Royal Irish Rifles.
William Campbell, Royal Irish Rifles.
N. Canning, Lieut., Royal Irish Rifles.
J. Holden Canning, Flying Corps.
Thomas Cook, Royal Irish Rifles (missing).
Thomas Crawford, Royal Navy.
William R. Drummond, Flying Corps.
Thomas Dobbin, Royal Irish Rifles.
John Ferris, Captain, Commanding Transport.
Alex. Ferguson, R.N.R.
Alexander Loughridge, Royal Navy.
Samuel Geo. M'Ninch, Sergeant, Black Watch.
James Watt M'Ninch, jun., B.A., Despatch Rider.
Dr. Ivan Magill, giving medical services in Trenches and Military Hospital.
John M'Keown, Royal Engineers.
Hugh Montgomery, Royal Irish Rifles.
Andrew Nelson, Irish Guards.
Samuel Nelson, Royal Irish Rifles.
Samuel Ogilby Royal Navy.,
Samuel Ogilby (No. 2), Royal Irish Rifles.
Classon Porter Hay, Royal Engineers (temporarily).
Thomas Robinson, served 6 years in India and wounded three times in France.)
David Robinson,
David Robinson, R.N., Antwerp.
Robert Robinson, Royal Irish Rifles.
Ephraim Robinson, Royal Irish Rifles.
Hugh Ramsey, Royal Irish Rifles.
John Sittlington, R.N.R.
Samuel Sittlington, R.N.
David Smith, Royal Irish Rifles.
Bob Wallace, Corporal, Royal Irish Rifles.
Alexander Wallace, Royal Irish Rifles.

NURSES—
Miss Vida Crawford, nursing in Military Hospital in Tidmouth.

MONEYREA.

John Clifford, Royal Irish Rifles (discharged through illness).
William Clifford, Royal Irish Rifles.
James Fisher.
John Lamont.
David Bodel Spence, Royal Irish Rifles.

NEWRY.

Isaac Berry, 11th Borderers, Lonsdale Batt.
Joseph Berry, 5th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Bertie Crothers, Lord Kitchener's Army.
Robert M'Alpine, Driver, Army Service Corp.
George M'Alpine.
Joseph Mitchell, Army Service Corps.
Thomas Moore, Royal Engineers.
Desmond Pinkerton, Royal Navy.
Henry Rainey, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
George Scott, Captain, 5th Batt. Field Artillery.
James Colvin Thompson, Machine Gun Section, R.I. Rifles.
David Thompson, 16th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles.
Samuel Thompson, North Irish Horse.

NEWTOWNARDS.

James Bailie, B.E. Force, France.
Thos. Harrison, do. do.
James Kennedy, do. do.
James M'Cracken, do. do.
John Galway.
Samuel Harrison.
William Harrison.
Brian Marshall King.
James C. M'Grattan.
William M'Grattan.

RADEMON

William Alderdice, Ulster Division.
Alfred Alexander, 2nd Batt. Co. Down Regt.
Fergus Lindsay.
Sergt. Thos. C. Patterson, Ulster Division.
Samuel Spiers, Ulster Division.

RALOO.

Samuel M'Fall.
James Thompson.

TEMPLEPATRICK.

Matthew P. Barnett, 9th Batt. C.O.E.F.
Samuel Boyd, R.A.M.C.
Henry Gault, 9th Batt. R.I.R.
James Harper, 12th Batt. R.I.R.
Joseph Harper, 18th Batt. R.I.R.
Robert M'Clay, 15th Batt. R.I.R.
Hugh N. Turner, 14th Batt. R.I.R.
John Young, 12th Batt. R.I.R.
Samuel Young, 18th Batt. R.I.R.

Obituary.

MISS MARGARET ORR,

OF BALLYLESSON.

The death of this lady, at a somewhat advanced age, on December 15th, will be the cause of heartfelt regret to members of our religious community. It possessed no more devoted friend and well-wisher than she. Connected for many years with the First Presbyterian Congregation, Rosemary Street, Belfast, she possessed friends, and ever showed deep interest in, other congregations within our Non-Subscribing Church. While she retained vivid recollections of past events, she also followed with intelligent sympathy every recent development in our church life and polity. In one and the same conversation she could tell of early experiences which made vivid the personalities of men like Dr. Montgomery, John Scott Porter and

C. J. M'Alester, and then go on to deal ably and sympathetically with the latest thing of interest in our religious body. Nor did she do so without indicating how clearly she saw, and how incisively she summed up, the trend of events. It was one of the characteristics of her truth-loving and truth-speaking nature that her opinions were ever her own—never merely borrowed from someone else. She could not tolerate any insincerity, social or otherwise. It was utterly foreign to her forceful personality to halt between two opinions, or to be undecided in the practical affairs of life. Nor was she any less unhesitating in matters of personal predilection. Her friendship was a privilege and an abiding satisfaction. None could conceive of kinder acts, none be more prompt to have them realised. Strength of character was in her case compatible with the deepest and most discerning sympathy for those in trouble. Often doing "good by stealth," she made light of what she did, well satisfied if she had attained her object. As a consequence, her death will first fully reveal of how much benevolence she was the source and inspiration. By her friends she will be greatly missed, while her brother, Dr. Gawin Orr, and her two younger sisters, will deeply feel the severing of a long and closely-knit earthly companionship. With them we feel, and would express the most heartfelt sympathy. The interment took place on December 17th at Dunmurry, the officiating ministers being the Revs. H. J. Rossington and J. A. Kelly. This was preceded by a short service in the home conducted by the former.

WANTED

Principal Teacher (Male), Non-Subscribing Presbyterian, of Country School. Ballee N.S. Apply

Rev, Jos- Hy. Bibby,
The Manse, Ballee,
Downpatrick.

RELIGION AND THE WAR

By Dr. John Campbell.

The war has brought to the front moral problems which are usually kept in the background. In Dublin some clergymen of the Episcopal Church have become interested in them, and have formed a committee to deal with certain aspects of the evil. Apparently this committee means to work on the old familiar lines, which have been so often followed with but little success. The clergy do not seem capable of beginning a root and branch reform, which would give the ordinary man a higher ideal, and lead to a gradual advance towards a better average of character and conduct. Unhappily our own Church has as yet done nothing, although its principles and the history of Ulster combine to point to it as the chosen instrument for the work. Indifference or timidity has overcome those who should be our leaders. They are unable to stand upright under the weight of their responsibilities.

Speaking recently at a Nonconformist meeting in North Bristol, Mr. Birrell said: "It might be that this war would throw Christians back on the teachings of the Founder of Christianity." This is exactly what our Church has stood for throughout its history. This is what it stands for to-day. Perhaps Mr. Birrell's words may inspire our leaders to crouch no longer in seclusion, but to come out into the open and boldly ask every orthodox Church in the land to reform; to put the teaching of Jesus in the forefront where it should be; to allow His bracing words to invigorate the rising generation, and to cease to mingle His sayings with the soothing-syrup contained in the doctrines of men.

"The under side of every cloud
Is bright and shining—
I therefore turn my clouds about,
To show the lining."

THE DOCTRINE OF HELL AND THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

By Ullin.

THE Ven. Archdeacon Wilberforce, D.D., preaching in Westminster Abbey on Sunday, November 14th, 1915, stated that "in 1864 the question was tried before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council whether endless torment was a doctrine of the Church of England or not. After argument on both sides by able Counsel, and after mature deliberation, the judgment was given that it was not a doctrine of the Church of England, and this verdict was given with the approval, or, at any rate, with the tacit consent of the two Archbishops who sat as assessors."

It will be obvious to every reader that this is an exceedingly important utterance, and when we remember who was the preacher—the Chaplain of the House of Commons—and remember also the pulpit from which the utterance was made, it will behove any of our orthodox friends to whom the doctrine of an endless hell is an indispensable article of faith, to pause before they give themselves up to resentment and criticism.

Personally, no preacher has ever impressed the writer of this article more than Archdeacon Wilberforce has done. There is a vivid recollection of a Sunday afternoon address in a great church, and the stately form of Basil Wilberforce, arrayed in a black cassock, standing on the chancel steps. For a whole hour he spoke without a moment's hesitation, and without the assistance of notes, holding his audience in breathless attention, speaking words that thrilled. It is easy to imagine that the sermon in Westminster Abbey was preached with the same power. "My Father . . . is greater than all, and no one can snatch out of the Father's hand." "The word 'them' after snatch, has been inserted by translators; it is not in the Greek." So began the sermon, and he went on to say: "After the Council of Nicœa, A.D. 325, the M.SS. of the New Testament were considerably tampered with. Certain scholars called correctores were appointed by the ecclesiastical authorities to correct the text of Scripture in the interests of what the Church considered orthodoxy." And this statement is not from a Unitarian pulpit, but from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey.

The Rev. Charles Voysey, B.A., the late minister and founder of the Theistic Church, London who at one time held a living in the Church of England went to an extreme to which the majority of Unitarians were not able to follow, and which they did not consider was justified by a fair and candid study of the Scriptures. Mr. Voysey strongly insisted that Jesus Christ taught the doctrine of "endless torment," that the interpretation of his teaching by Calvinists and others was consonant with that set forward in the New Testament, and that it was a mere prevarication and subterfuge on the part of Unitarians and Liberal Christians to give Christ the position of a Supreme teacher, and to attribute to him anything of a wide tolerance. True, he had good impulses, was a loveable character, but erred in much, and even the veneration paid to him as a Divine Teacher was as much an obstacle to the true religious life as that which made him the only mediator between God and man, the reconciler of God to man. But the point Mr. Voysey insisted most strongly upon was that Christ undoubtedly taught the doctrine of endless torment. As Mr. Voysey's contention with reference to the teaching of Christ was practically that of extreme orthodoxy, Unitarians, in their vindication of Christ, were obliged, to a great extent, to take strong exception to such a presentation, although on other points, such as the Divine Unity and the Fatherhood of God, they might be in agreement. Alike, against Mr. Voysey and orthodoxy, Unitarians strongly insisted that Christ never in reality taught the doctrine of endless torment; that the original wording allowed of a much more rational and humane interpretation; that suffering was remedial, and not vindictive, and

that no loving Father could tolerate such a fact in His creation.

But the writer once heard General Booth say: "Knock away the doctrine of hell, and you knock away the foundation of the Christian religion." Hell, then, was the foundation of Christian belief. The Shorter Catechism bears out that statement: "All mankind are under God's wrath and curse, and so made liable to all the miseries of this life, to death itself and the pains of hell for ever."

The whole fabric of orthodoxy, the scheme of salvation, is the way in which Divine justice was satisfied by the atoning death of Christ, by which the price was paid, and conditionally it was made possible to escape the awful destiny, which was the rightful fate of all mankind, the condition being the saving belief in the atoning work of Christ.

If in 1864 the highest law court in the land pronounced "endless torment" to be no part of the doctrine of the Church of England,, nevertheless it has been taught, and no one yet has been expelled for the heresy of teaching it, although that penalty has overtaken some amongst Methodists and Presbyterians for preaching against it. Some years ago a young Minister among the Methodists, having fulfilled his probationary years, just escaped by a majority of one in his favour on the examining board having to go out of the ministry altogether because he was not prepared to say that he believed in "endless torment."

But, the Methodists came out from the Church of England, and brought their doctrine of hell out of their Mother Church. In revivals for which Methodists and kindred societies have been famous, "hell" has had the prominent place, and "Flee from the wrath to come" is an old Methodist watchword. An old-fashioned revival without a hell would have been like whiskey without alcohol, as the old Scotch beadle expressed it: "A kirk without a hell is not worth a ——."

How many men and women have been driven out of the Church of England since 1864 by this and its associated doctrines, and turned, for a time at any rate, into bitter opponents of Christianity! Charles Bradlaugh, Annie Besant and others were driven into atheism, as were many other earnest people. Only their sincerity, their strict loyalty to truth, to scientific method, brought any one of them back to religion. The doctrine of the just dying for the unjust revolted Annie Besant by its inherent injustice. Mr Gladstone wrote an article in the "Nineteenth Century," endeavouring to show that Mrs. Besant had misconstrued the doctrine of the Church, that that was only the interpretation of "irresponsible people." "A. G." replied in the "Christian Life," and showed that Mrs. Besant was quite right in her interpretation of the orthodox idea of the "Atonement." If space permitted quotations could be given from bishops and other dignitaries who were not affected by the decision of the Privy Council in 1864.

But, what of the awful agony of mind in which millions have lived and died since then because of this awful doctrine. Death has been the "king of terrors" to millions, because of "hell." Now, from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey, by one of the greatest, if not the greatest, preacher of the day, it is declared to be no part of Church of England doctrine. When shall we hear it is repudiated alike by Methodists, Presbyterians, Salvation Army, Congregationalists, Roman Catholics? Then at last will the pure doctrine of Christ Himself have a chance to be heard.

REVIEW

"The Christianity of Health. The Love of Christ versus the Sword of Islam. By Conway Scott. Price 2/-. Belfast: M'Caw, Stevenson & Orr, Limited, the Linen Hall Press, 1915."

This book is evidently the work of a man of great ability, who applies his mental gifts in a truly scientific way, and who sees things as they are. Many

people see things only as they wish to see them. This is their misfortune, not their fault. Their education in youth, and their narrow surroundings in later life have made them mentally short-sighted and incapable of seeing beyond the fences within which they have been reared. Much of the indifference to existing evils, and much of the dislike to combat those evils arises from education and environment, and unhappily acts as a drag upon the advance of humanity to a higher moral and spiritual level. Mr. Conway Scott is not afraid to look at things as they are, and has the courage to point out in clear and forcible language the way which leads to improved conditions. To those who mistake priestcraft for religion, and estimate spiritual success by counting the number of heads brought under their banner, the book will not appeal. Indeed it will probably excite the hostility of such people, Its very merits will, in their eyes. condemn it.

The author shows from history how a nation, which allows the spirit of religion to become debased and supplanted by creed, or form, or ceremony, deteriorates both spiritually and physically. He instances the Jews in Egypt, corrupted, degraded, forgetful of Jehovah, unable to march boldly out and at once possess the Promised Land. Forty years of privation and hardship in the wilderness were necessary to weed out the unfit, and to train a new and manlier generation. Again he points to the fall of Jerusalem and the captivity in Babylon, and to the conquest of the Jews by the Romans, as instances of a similar sequence of events. Coming to Christian times, he shows how the early Roman Catholic Church forgot the religion of Jesus, and became so enervated as to fall an easy prey to the Saracens. He brings before us the ineffectual efforts of the Crusaders to conquer the Mahommedans. The ill effects of a spurious Christianity destroyed the morals and physique of the crusading warriors. Dependence upon the miraculous sapped the minds and bodies of the people to such a degree that th ir efforts to free themselves from the Saracen yoke resemble the acts of lunatics rather than of sane men.

Incidentally Mr. Scott points out how the rulers of the Church misused their influence over the people and cramped the development of literature, science, and art, destroying individual freedom, and hindering the advance of civilisation. The conquest of Christianity by Islam thus proved a blessing in disguise, by destroying priestly tyranny and releasing the masses from intellectual and bodily slavery.

Referring to the comparative failure of modern Christianity to uplift the people, the author asks: "How is it that the Christian civilisation of even the present day presents such a sad spectacle of filth, misery, disease, and human suffering of every kind?" and remarks: "Very many of the evils which afflict our modern civilisation, and the low state of our national health may be traced to false views of religion and false beliefs. . . .." "Instead of regretting that Christianity seems to have accomplished so little for the world, the real wonder is that the spirit of Christianity has done so much, when hampered and retarded by false teaching, false ideas, and false beliefs, taught to the people by the very leaders of Christianity. What may not Christianity effect when she shakes off all such vile impedimenta, and marches, free and untrammelled to the conquest of the world for Christ?"

Finally the writer, in prophetic vein, indicates what future generations will require of their guides in things spiritual and temporal. To theologians, ministers of the Gospel, and all religious teachers, they will say: "Stop this teaching of obsolete creeds and dead beliefs, and worn-out forms and ceremonies, which have nearly ruined Christianity in the past. Show us how to live so as to attain to the highest spiritual health and development; and if you cannot do so, come down from your high places, and let some abler, healthier, and more spiritually-minded men fill them."

The book contains a mine of information, and teems with suggestions. It

would do every minister of religion good to read it. If he had any capacity for thinking beyond the borders of his sect, he would rise from its perusal a wiser man and a better leader of the people. The author's thoughts rush from cover to cover like a mountain torrent. Some will carp at his literary form, but none can deny that sincerity and earnestness pervade his work. It should be read by every adult member of our denomination. It will show our people that there is a great work of reform to be done, and that the principles of our Church make us the "chosen people" by whom that reform is to be accomplished.

The book is well printed and neatly got up. Its moderate price brings it within the reach of the poorest. It is in every way a credit to the eminent firm which has published it.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

BY THE WAY

IT is certain that one of our New Year's resolutions will have to be to practise a more rigid economy. Despite the appearance everywhere of "business as usual," one need not be a very skilled economist to realize that the presence of so much money is quite delusive. It is very much a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The Government is compelled to borrow huge sums of money to maintain the War, and inevitably a certain proportion of that money comes back to us in the shape of separation allowances, and wages and profits made in the various trades that are supplying the ammunition, equipment, provisions, etc., to the Army. But the Government have to pay back sometime the money it has borrowed, and that means that WE shall have to find it in the way of enormously increased taxes. So that we had better save up now whilst we have some money, so as, on the one hand, to lessen our liability to foreign countries, and on the other, to be able to meet the serious calls that will soon be made on us.

It is hard, however, to make folk realize the seriousness of the financial situation, because we are still in a position to borrow from foreign countries. Germany, however, can borrow very little in other countries, because she has lost all her foreign trade. It was rather amusing, by the way, to see that the German Chancellor has been boasting that Germany is much better off financially than we are, because her own people have contributed so largely to the War loan, when the simple fact is, that if her own people had not found the money nobody else would. They are compelled to be economical. Our duty is to be economical without being compelled.

* *

Our reluctance to part with our money for purposes outside our own domestic affairs is most pathetic. Our men will give themselves to the horror and misery of the trenches, with the likelihood of a German bullet for exit; our women will strain their nerves and wear out their bodies in the arduous and exacting task of nursing, or will devote themselves with the fervour of piece-workers to knitting and stitching mountains of socks and mufflers and shirts, and we all look cheerful over it. But when it is hinted that the Income Tax will be increased, or when we are asked to subscribe half-a-crown to succour the starving Serbians, we may indeed pay up — we may actually refrain from grumbling—BUT we certainly feel gloomy. We find it easier to give our lives than our livelihood.

* *

I have known many a man who would, without hesitation, give up his life for a friend in a tight corner, but would find lending him a few shillings worse than having a tooth drawn. And many women, who have every right to believe that their husbands would die for them, cannot help feeling sometimes that it would be pleasanter to attend their funerals than have to ask for the price of a new hat.

* *

The service of Mammon is the besetting sin of most of us. The power that money exercises over our character is

extraordinary. We really have no knowledge of men and women until we have come into contract with them on money matters. In a manner of speaking, money makes us mad. There is a kind of lunatic who might pass as in every way perfectly sane until a certain name is mentioned, and then his delusion immediately takes possession of him. Similar transformations can be witnessed every day of our lives among those who pass as quite sane people. They are everything we could wish them to be until the mystic words, "How much will you give?" or, "How much will it cost" are named, and then we have to adjust ourselves to something entirely different.

* *

What it all comes to is this: Most folk are willing enough to give their lives for their country. Their country does not ask this from everyone, but she does ask that all should offer their money to her, by regarding it as a sacred trust, to be managed in the way most conducive to her financial stability *Sic nos non nobis*—at all times, but especially in a crisis like this, we do not live only for ourselves.

* *

By the way, we humans have a curious taste for the first of anything—first class, first editions, first loves and the rest. It may interest our readers to know that the first officer casualty in the Ulster Division was a young member of one of our Belfast Non-Subscribing churches. 2nd Lieut. Mac Pettigrew was daringly trying to snipe a sniper when a sniper sniped him. Fortunately the wound was not serious, and we are able to congratulate our gallant young friend on his return to health.

* *

An excellent story was most topically recalled the other day by one of our local papers. Shortly after Germany had filched Schleswig-Holstein from Denmark, a Dane was being shown by a German some relics of his great fellow-countryman, Schiller. The Dane remarked on Schiller's internationalism, only to provoke a jealous "what do you mean?" from the German, anxious to keep Schiller all to himself. "Well, you see," said the Dane, "he wrote 'Mary Stuart' for the British, 'The Maid of Orleans' for the French, 'William Tell' for the Swiss, 'The Bride of Messina' for the Italians"—"And what did he write for the Germans?" interrupted the German. "Oh, for the Germans," replied the Dane, "he wrote 'The Robbers.'"

VIATOR.

Reports.

Unity Guild.—The word "Crypt" usually makes one think "of graves, of worms and epitaphs," but the crypt at All Souls' Church certainly proved a very snug meeting place for the Guild on Wednesday night, the 15th December. It had been decorated with evergreens in honour of the Christmas which was drawing near. Perhaps it was this very approach of the holiday season which accounted for the smallness of the audience—there were only about 40 persons present—which gathered to hear the President's lecture on "How Italy became a Nation." It was to have been illustrated with lime-light views, but owing to the war Mr. Pickering had been unable to obtain the necessary slides. He had, however, contrived an ingenious plan of illustrating in graphic manner the growth of Italian nationality by means of a specially prepared map. This added considerably to the interest of the lecture, and enabled the speaker to appeal to the eye as well as to the ear. Tea was provided at the close of the lecture, and a simple little competition, which had been arranged by the Committee, was carried out while tea was being taken. The prize, a pretty little picture, had been presented by Mr. H. Erskine, and was won by Miss A. Montgomery. The Annual Soiree, which is the next meeting of the Guild, takes place on the 14th January. Tickets may be had from any member of the Committee at 2/6 each. It is hoped that a sufficient sum will be raised to

enable a substantial contribution to be given to the Victoria Barracks Hospital Fund. It will be remembered that £12 12s. was given to the Belgian Relief Fund out of the proceeds of last year's Soirée, and every effort must be made to do as well this year for a war fund nearer home. But while we are in some small measure supplying the means of alleviating the suffering caused by this disastrous war, let us not forget the poor who are always with us. The Committee has arranged to give a concert in aid of our less fortunate brethren connected with the Domestic Mission in Stanhope Street on 19th January. A thoroughly attractive programme has been arranged, and there should be a large attendance. The tickets are only 3d. each, and may be had from Rev. F. Woolley, or from the Hon. Sec. of the Guild at 35 Rosemary Street.

Belfast (First Congregation). — Although at least another £80 will be sent to St. Dunstan's Hostel as a result of the third entertainment held here on their behalf, it must not be supposed that this is the only war charity to which the congregation is contributing. During November and December 179 pairs of socks, 42 pairs of mittens, 45 mufflers, 6 helmets, 21 sweaters, 5 vests, 2 day shirts, 2 night shirts, 12 special bandages, and 11 pairs of stockings have been made and sent forward for use by the troops. These have been distributed among the Ulster Division, the Royal Irish Rifles, the Royal Field Artillery, and the Mine sweepers. In addition to this a sum of £15 has been sent to the Red Cross Society. This has been raised by means of a monthly collection taken up as the congregation leaves the church, together with such contributions as have been put into a box which is permanently placed in the vestibule for that purpose.

Dromore.—The Annual Meeting of the congregation was held in the church on Friday evening, 3rd December. There was a good attendance of members. The chairman, Mr. Henry Hobart, C.E., in his opening remarks, said that as many of those present were aware, the special business to come before them was the consideration of an increase of salary to their minister, the Rev. Alfred Davison. The membership and attendance had largely increased during the past few years, and the gift of £500 from the late Mr. Wm. Gibson had materially augmented their investments. The chairman spoke in high terms of Mr. Davison's pastoral work during the 15 years of his ministry in Dromore, and announced that he would call upon Mr. Mulligan to move a resolution on the subject after the adoption of the treasurer's statement. Mr. C. Miniss, J.P., having read the statement of accounts, which showed a balance in hands at end of financial year of £96 17s. 3d. Mr. Mulligan said that it gave him great pleasure to move that the minister's salary be increased, and he heartily endorsed all that the chairman had said with regard to Mr. Davison. The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Beck and passed unanimously. It was decided that the election of office-bearers and committee be triennial. Votes of thanks having been passed to Mrs. Ruddock, members of the choir, Mr. C. Miniss (treasurer), Mr. W. J. Baxter (secretary), and Mr. Hobart for taking the chair, the proceedings terminated.

Greyabbey.—A Lantern Exhibition, depicting scenes in connection with the great European war, was given on the 13th December. The slides were many and varied, and they gave a very good idea of the trying conditions which our lads endure so pluckily. From our little village many have gone "to do their bit." Some have found a soldier's grave, some have been severely wounded, and we doubt not that the others are helping to keep up the reputation of our country for bravery and chivalry. The lantern was manipulated by the minister and Mr. Robert Warnock, and the exhibition was concluded by the audience singing the National Anthem.

Holywood.—The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held on Tuesday, December 14th, the minister, Rev. G. L. Phelps, presiding. The chief features of the Committee's report were, the reference to the good response made by young men of the congregation to the country's call in connection with the war, and our losses in this connection; the fact that our accounts show a balance on the right side, and the statement that owing to the war no Cake Fair and Fancy Sale had been held for the Organ Fund. With reference to this last it was reported that the members of the congregation had been canvassed for subscriptions to support the Fund until a sale could be conveniently held, with the gratifying result that a sum of £59 11s. has already been received. The following were elected to fill the vacancies on the Church Committee:—Mrs. Neill, Messrs. W. Shannon, R. Steele, and T. Wardlow, and the Treasurer, Auditor, and Secretary were re-elected. The usual vote of thanks was passed to the members of the choir. After the business had been concluded, a programme of music was carried out, to which the following contributed :—Miss Murphy, Miss Munster, Mrs. M'Crum, Mr. M'Kisack and the choir. Misses Anna and Maggie Graham also danced very prettily. There was a very good attendance, and after the tea-makers and those who had assisted in the programme had been thanked, the meeting concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

Templepatrick.—A Sale of Work held in Castle Upton, Templepatrick, on the 11th and continued on the 13th December, in aid of soldiers, sailors and mine-sweepers, resulted in a clear profit of over £200. At a meeting held in the Castle on Saturday evening, the 18th ult., a hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mrs. Campbell for her kindness in lending the Castle for the undertaking.

"Do thy duty, that is best,
Leave unto the Lord the rest."

Echoes.

"Be not deceived, there is no wall of adamant, no triple flaming sword, to drive off those lawless assassins that have murdered and pillaged in every other land. Heaven has made with us no covenant, that there should be joy and peace here, and wailing and lamentation in the world besides. I would counsel you to put on a mind of patient suffering, and noble acting. Whate verenergies there are in the human mind, you will want them all. Every man will be tried to the very springs of his heart; and those times are at hand which will show us all as we really are, with the genuine stamp, and value, be it much, or be it little, which nature has impressed upon each living soul."—*Sydney Smith.*

* *

"Let an Englishman or a Frenchman, who respectively represent the two greatest nationalities of modern Europe, sincerely ask himself what it is that makes him take pride in his nationality; what it is which would make it intolerable to his feelings to pass, or to see any part of his country pass, under foreign dominion. He will find that it is the sense of self-esteem generated by knowing the figure which his nation makes in history; by considering the achievements of his nation in war, government, arts, literature, or industry. It is the sense that his people, which has done such great things, merits to exist in freedom and dignity, and to enjoy the luxury of self-respect."—*Matthew Arnold.*

"Sorrows are often like clouds, which though black when they are passing over us, when they are past become as if they were garments of God thrown off in purple and gold along the sky."

Death.

MILLIKEN—December 21st, at her residence, No. 4 Greenmount Terrace, Ballyclare. Marianne Cameron, widow of the late James Milliken, in her 92nd year.

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